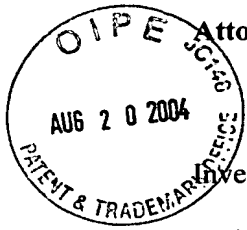


IFW



Attorney Docket No.: 702\_101

PATENT

UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Inventor(s): Thomas Karpen

Serial No.: 10/762,947

Art Unit: 2877

Filed: January 22, 2004

Examiner: Not Yet Assigned

Title: AUTOMOTIVE FUEL TANK INSPECTION DEVICE

Mail Stop Amendment  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail addressed to Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on August 18, 2004.

*Cheryl M. Nichols*  
Cheryl M. Nichols

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT

Sir:

Pursuant to 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicants submit the following Information Disclosure Statement, and directs the attention of the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office to the references listed on the attached Form PTO-1449. The references are listed on the attached Form PTO-1449.

The information is presented so that the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office may, in the first instance, determine any materiality thereof to the claimed invention. See 37 C.F.R. § 1.104(a) and § 1.105 (concerning the PTO duty to consider and use any such information).

Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner expressly consider the information disclosed herein during the prosecution of this application, that the Examiner initial the corresponding box on the enclosed Form PTO-1449 next to each of the considered references, and that these references be made of record therein and appear among the "References Cited" on any patent which issues from this application.

This Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed as a representation that a search has been made." See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(g). This Information Disclosure Statement "shall not be construed to be an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in § 1.56(b)." See 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(h).

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed (1) no later than three months from the application's filing date or (2) before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits (whichever is later), and therefore no certification under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e) or fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.

While no fee is believed due with this submission, the Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees associated with this submission, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 50-0289.

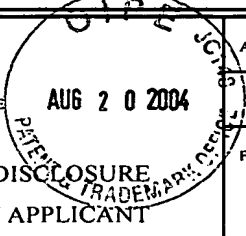
Dated: 8/18/04

Respectfully submitted,

  
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Form PTO 1449 US DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE		Atty Docket No. 702_101	Serial No. 10/762,947
INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT		Applicant Thomas Karpen	
		Filing Date January 22, 2004	Group 2877

### U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Exam. Initial		Document Number	Date	Name	Class	Sub Class	Filing Date
	AA	3,674,016	07/04/1972	Leucci			06/25/1970
	AB	5,365,331	11/15/1994	Tamburrino et al.			01/27/1993
	AC	5,417,546	05/23/1995	Smith et al.			08/06/1993
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	AJ	6,350,233	02/26/2002	Lubowski			07/29/1999

### FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

		Document Number	Date	Country	Class	Sub Class	Translation	Abstract

### OTHER DOCUMENTS (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages Etc.)

Examiner		Date Considered

EXAMINER: Initial if citation considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.